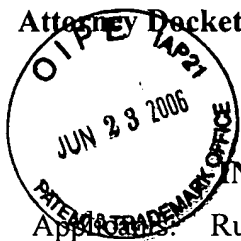


JFW



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Ruxandra Draghia-Akli, et al.

Serial No.: 10/764,818

Filed: January 26, 2004

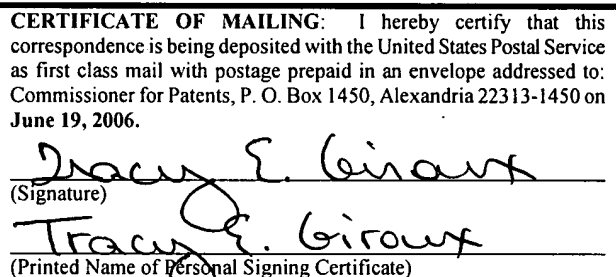
Art Unit: 1635

Examiner: Richard Schnizer

For: **Reducing Culling in Herd Animals Growth Hormone Releasing Hormone (GHRH)**

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:



**STATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW**

In response to the Examiner's Interview Summary mailed May 19, 2006, Applicants hereby submit the following summary of the in-person interview of April 20, 2006, which interview was attended by the following participants: Examiner – Dr. Richard Schnizer; Inventor - Dr. Ruxandra Draghia-Akli; Agent – Dr. Craig Conrad; and Attorney – Dr. T. Ling Chwang.

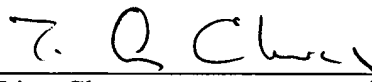
The purpose of the interview was to discuss specific aspects of the Examiner's decision to withdraw allowed claims in favor of successive restriction requirements. More specifically, the Examiner had withdrawn allowed Claims 58-76 in the Office Action dated August 24, 2005, in favor of a first restriction requirement. Next the Examiner withdrew his first restriction requirement in favor of a second restriction requirement dated January 11, 2006. Applicants discussed how they believed both restrictions were improper, especially since the Examiner has restricted 78 method claims into 105 inventions based upon specific nucleic acid sequences.

The Examiner has stated that the claims in each restricted invention (group 1-57, and 58-105) were drawn to a variety of patentably distinct nucleic acid (see page 3 of the January 11, 2006 Office Action), and therefore the restriction was proper.

No agreement on the restriction was reached during the interview.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned concerning any questions concerning this Substance of the Interview Statement.

Respectfully submitted,



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June 19, 2006  
Date